

Weekly Weather Crop Report



In cooperation with

Mississippi Department of
Agriculture and Commerce

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Week Ending May 15, 2005

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According to the Mississippi Agricultural Statistics Service, there were 6.1 days suitable for fieldwork for the **week ending May 15, 2005**. Mississippi growers were happy to see warm, dry weather this week, which allowed them to complete some needed tasks. There were isolated cases of cotton acres having to be replanted due to damage from heavy rains earlier in the month. Parts of the state experienced a rain shower over the weekend, but additional rain is needed to allow for a proper crop stand. Farmers harvesting hay benefitted from the dry weather and wheat is looking good after a rough planting season. Soil moisture was rated 2 percent very short, 19 percent short, 74 percent adequate, and 5 percent surplus.

Progress In Percentages						Conditions in Percentages				
Item	Event	This Week	Last Week	2004	5-Yr Avg	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Corn	Planted	100	99	100	100	1	4	27	59	9
	Emerged	98	93	97	97					
Cotton	Planted	87	65	86	82	--	--	--	--	--
	Emerged	63	33	73	66					
Rice	Planted	98	93	95	88	0	1	21	73	5
	Emerged	86	71	89	76					
Sorghum	Planted	98	92	96	89	0	0	15	85	0
	Emerged	90	75	91	79					
Soybeans	Planted	91	79	92	77	0	4	16	76	4
	Emerged	80	55	86	65					
Wheat	Heading	99	96	100	100	3	5	32	58	2
	Mature	9	--	7	10					
Hay (Cool Season) (Warm Season)	Harvested	62	38	56	66	--	--	--	--	--
		6	--	6	3					
Watermelons	Planted	99	95	84	91	0	0	19	77	4
Cattle						1	5	29	52	13
Pasture						2	6	38	46	8

County Agent Comments

"Some producers stopped planting soybeans in some areas because of dry conditions. The crops that have been planted are in need of some more moisture."

— Melvin Oatis, Benton

"Farming activity is in high gear. Cool temperatures slowed germination of planted seed. Homeowners are still having disease problems on lawns. A lot of cotton was planted this week."

— Tim Needham, Tippah

"Some areas had become too dry to germinate seed by the end of the week, but rains at the end of the week should get planting back on track. Crops are beginning to overcome the effects of the prolonged cool and damp period. Some replanting has been required as a result of poor field conditions."

— Ernest Flint, Attala

“A good one-inch of rain fell Saturday night over most of the county.”

— Betsy Padgett, Holmes

“Pasture, corn, soybeans, and vegetable crops are suffering from dry soil conditions. We need rainfall to prevent significant plant death loss. Ryegrass harvest for hay, haylage, and bale silage is essentially complete. Corn silage fields desperately need rain and many producers are delaying herbicide applications until we get a rain to promote plant growth.”

— Lamar Adams, Walthall

“Some parts of the county received rain over the weekend. We need rain to finish planting and get what has been planted up to a stand. It is very dry for the middle of May.”

— Don Respons, Bolivar

“We are extremely dry in Quitman County. Some of the beans and cotton need a rain before they will be to a complete stand. Crops that are up are not growing due to dry conditions.”

— Mack Young, Quitman

“Many farmers, using rotary hoes, were busy trying to save some areas that got pounded with 3 to 4 inches of rain. Many producers were replanting or walking the fields trying to make the decision whether to replant.”

— Jimbo Burkhalter, Tallahatchie

“We had to replant about 25-30% of the cotton due to cold, wet conditions when it was planted 18 days ago. A little slug damage is showing in some cotton. Any cotton planted Monday or Tuesday of this week was up to a stand by Saturday.”

— Stephen R. Winters, Grenada

“Lack of moisture in the planting zone delayed cotton planting in some areas. Cool temperatures slowed development of emerged cotton and soybeans.”

— Jay Phelps, Pontotoc

“Warm weather has solved many problems with slow growth and emergence. A good one inch of rain would not hurt.”

— Tommy Baird, Sunflower

“Recent rainfall will help to stimulate crops and pasture growth. Ryegrass hay harvest is nearing the end with an exceptional harvest behind us. Most of the ryegrass was cured and baled without any rain on it, which should lead to some pretty hay in the barn.”

— Houston Therrell, Rankin

“Warmer temperatures have corn looking much better. Soybean and cotton planting have been at full speed for the last 7 to 10 days. Overall, crop growth is a little behind normal but stands appear healthy.”

— Dr. Bill Burdine, Chickasaw

“Warmer weather helped crop progress. Soil moisture was somewhat lacking until weekend rains fell, amounting to one-half to three-fourths of an inch. Pastures are improving and weed treatments were applied in several areas of the county. Ryegrass is heading and cool-season hay harvest has begun.”

— Glen E. Williams, Oktibbeha

“Warm and dry weather have allowed farmers to accomplish fieldwork. Cotton farmers have almost completed planting. Soybean farmers have also accomplished their goal of planting their crop seeds, with around 90 percent of the soybean seed already planted. There will be additional soybeans planted as the wheat crop is harvested. The tractors have been in high gear. The wheat fields I have looked at will probably begin being harvested next week, weather permitting. There is a chance of rain Saturday. Planted seeds could use a good watering, as could cattle pastures. The soil is getting quite dry in many areas.”

— Bill Maily, Hinds

“Parts of the county received a nice shower Saturday afternoon and evening, while other areas received just a sprinkle but kept farmers out of the hay field.”

— Michael Howell, Covington

“Pasture, corn, soybeans, and vegetable crops are suffering from dry soil conditions. We need rainfall to prevent significant plant death loss. Ryegrass harvest for hay, haylage, and bale silage is essentially complete. Corn silage fields desperately need rain and many producers are delaying herbicide applications until we get a rain to promote plant growth.”

— Lamar Adams, Walthall

“Dry weather is allowing ryegrass to be harvested.”

— Tommy Bishop, Jasper

“We received about one-half inch of rain over the weekend. Ryegrass hay harvest is just about complete. Bermuda grass is coming on strong. Cattle are in good shape. Dairy producers report that milk production is starting to drop slightly with the warmer weather.”

— Chuck Grantham, Jones

“Producers took advantage of good weather to harvest ryegrass hay, continue planting summer crops and fertilize and spray summer pastures. Corn is beginning to respond to warmer nights. Hay harvest will continue this week, but rain is predicted here later in the week.”

— Victor Lee, Newton

“Producers have been able to take advantage of the weather and complete the harvesting of cool - season hay. Corn and watermelon crops have also benefitted with producers being able to get in the fields and control weeds. Corn and watermelon crops are looking exceptionally good.”

— Florieda K. Mason, Perry

Additional comments appear on the Internet at: <http://www.nass.usda.gov/ms/cwyears.htm>

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Weather Summary from May 9, 2005 to May 15, 2005 for Mississippi

District/Station	Air Temperature					Precipitation				4 Inch Soil Temperature			Avg Pan Evap
	Max	Min	Avg	Norm	DFN	One Week	DFN	Rain Days	Four Weeks	Max	Min	Avg	
1. Upper Delta													
Charleston				69		0.50	-0.76	3	1.48				
Cleveland	92	58	75	70	+5	1.51	+0.39	3	2.39				
Tunica	92	62	75	69	+6	0.77	-0.56	3	2.52				
Extreme/Average	92	58	75	70	+5	0.93	-0.33	3	2.13				
2. North-Central													
Hickory Flat	91	52	70	67	+3	0.82	-0.44	2	1.74				
Calhoun City	88	54	71	68	+3	0.43	-0.83	3	1.57				
Independence	89	52	71	67	+4	0.71	-0.54	4	1.96				
Oxford	92	53	73	67	+6	0.33	-0.99	3	1.05				
Extreme/Average	92	52	71	68	+3	0.57	-0.69	3	1.58				
3. Northeast													
Booneville	89	58	72	67	+5	0.73	-0.74	3	2.08				
Iuka	89	44	67	65	+2	1.02	-0.44	3	3.17				
Ripley	91	53	71	67	+4	0.51	-0.75	3	1.57				
Tupelo	92	57	74			0.27		3	2.21				
Verona	94	57	74	69	+5	0.85	-0.24	2	2.12				
Extreme/Average	94	44	72	68	+4	0.68	-0.66	3	2.23				
4. Lower Delta													
Moorhead	91	61	75	71	+4	0.76	-0.47	2	2.10				
Rolling Fork	94	55	76	71	+5	0.73	-0.47	2	2.04				
Stoneville	93	64	76	72	+4	0.36	-0.86	2	1.27				
Yazoo City	91	62	74	71	+3	0.35	-0.97	2	2.29				
Extreme/Average	94	55	76	71	+5	0.55	-0.76	2	1.93				
5. Central													
Canton	91	57	73	71	+2	3.17	+1.81	3	5.64				
Carthage	91	53	72	70	+2	0.83	-0.46	2	2.47				
Lexington	89	55	72	69	+3	1.25	+0.06	2	3.55				
Eupora	89	52	71	68	+3	1.70	+0.51	3	2.68				
Extreme/Average	91	52	72	69	+3	1.74	+0.51	3	3.59				
6. East-Central													
Aberdeen	91	54	73	68	+5	0.69	-0.57	2	2.26				
Houston	89	50	69	67	+2	1.03	-0.23	3	2.84				
Louisville				6		1.30	+0.09	2	3.41				
State University	90	55	73	69	+4	0.47	-0.66	2	2.03				
Extreme/Average	91	50	72	69	+3	0.87	-0.32	2	2.38				
7. Southwest													
Crystal Springs	92	58	73	71	+2	0.50	-0.58	1	1.88				
Natchez	89	59	74	72	+2	1.25	-0.01	3	1.53				
Oakley	92	47	71	71	0	1.65	+0.57	3	2.94				
Vicksburg	90	60	74			0.20		2	2.46				
Extreme/Average	92	47	73	71	+2	0.90	-0.36	2	2.20				
8. South-Central													
Collins	89	57	73	70	+3	0.60	-0.78	2	2.13				
Columbia	91	57	74	72	+2	0.27	-0.99	2	2.41				
Tylertown	90	56	73	72	+1	0.06	-1.27	2	1.88				
Extreme/Average	91	56	74	71	+3	0.31	-1.00	2	2.14				
9. Southeast													
Beaumont	93	55	74			0.14		1	2.40				
Hattiesburg	93	56	74	72	+2	0.04	-1.20	1	1.70				
Laurel	90	55	73	71	+2	0.16	-1.09	2	3.15				
Newton	92	52	70	69	+1	0.02	-0.94	1	2.36				
Extreme/Average	93	52	73	71	+2	0.09	-1.04	1	2.42				
10.Coastal													
Gulfport	84	64	75	74	+1	0.05	-1.28	1	2.86				
Poplarville	90	58	73	73	0	0.19	-1.12	3	6.93				
Waveland	86	56	73	73	0	0.08	-1.16	2	3.19				
Extreme/Average	90	56	74	73	+1	0.11	-1.22	2	4.33				
State	94	44	73	70	+3	0.71	-0.54	2	2.50				

DFN = Departure from Normal.